

MEMPHIS APPEAL

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1915.

THE PRINTERS AND THE PROPRIETORS.

There is not a city in the United States where such cordial relations subsist between the newspaper proprietors and the printers as in Memphis.

Between them, in this city, there exists none of those bickering and squabbles which so often break out in other cities.

They understand each other's wants and necessities, and instead of any antagonism of interests, they are mutually dependent upon each other, and hence there is a disposition to extend reciprocal favors.

There have been few strikes in Memphis than in other cities north or south.

This is due to the fact that the proprietors of the Memphis newspapers have never asked anything just or reasonable that the protective union did not willingly, promptly, and uncomplainingly grant.

The hard times induced the proprietors of the Memphis press a few days since to petition for a reduction of rates from fifty to fifty cents.

This was promptly made. This reduction will be a saving to the Appeal publishing company of about five thousand dollars per year, for which the Memphis Typographical Union has the thanks of the stockholders.

This reduction never would have been asked had business been prosperous, for no one knows so well as the proprietors of newspapers, the hard labor of a printer's life.

The Memphis Typographical Union, at night, at a sacrifice of eye-sight and health, and a violation of the laws of nature. Printers are the most intelligent of all classes of trades, indeed, the world does not know how much they are indebted to the proprietors of the newspapers for the excellent English, the correct orthography, and perfect punctuation they find in the papers they daily read.

It is not part of the printer's duty to make corrections. But the proprietors of newspapers are so perfect that they supply all deficiencies with but little loss of time.

The finest critics in the world are to be found in the composing-room. The criticisms of the printers are severe, abundant in caustic wit, biting sarcasm, and pungent humor. If the authors of communications could hear these commentaries, they would either be ashamed out of the new papers at the Memphis Typographical Union, or they would be so perfect that they would not need the services of the printer.

The printer, who saves nearly every word from the author, yet is unthankful and unappreciated by the very persons they have saved from humiliation. The author reads his communication, chuckles over its general perfection, but if he finds one error he curses the "stupid printer," not seeming to know that the printer has saved him from a hundred gross, palpable, inexcusable errors in the printed production.

Without the aid of the printer, books and newspapers would not add much to the literature of the country. Were the Appeal to publish everything just as written by lawyers, poets, teachers, and the critics of public schools, our office would be besieged by indignant women and enraged men.

We do not submit to try this experiment for even one day. But we are disagreeing. We started out merely to thank the members of the Memphis Typographical Union for their liberality toward the proprietors of the Memphis press. Their appreciation of the situation and their sense of justice has strengthened their organization.

Our sympathies have always been with trades-unions. They are the necessary companions of labor against the avaricious greed of capital, by which last we mean accumulated property in the hands of the few.

It is all very well to assert that labor and capital harmonize, and that one is dependent on the other. This is true, but it is the harmonious dependence of the slave and master, man and brute.

As in all ages slaves were worked to death, because the product of their labor was worth more than human life, and as the dryman overloads and kills his mule, time counting more than mule-die, so unrelenting capital harmonizes with the labor upon which these philosophers tell us it depends.

They are shooting mines in Pennsylvania for demand living wages for labor, while the heartless capitalists are operating under a system of protection that made these mines sources of immense wealth.

Without these trade-unions the rich would become richer, and the poor poorer, worse than the southern slaves liberated. Every trade should have a firm, persistent organization for its own protection. This the printers have, and so far as Memphis is concerned, there is a just harmony between proprietors and compositors.

Were the Memphis Typographical Union dissolved, it would be a saving of ten thousand dollars per annum to the Appeal publishing company, but this saving would be at the expense of impoverishing the printer, and we have no desire to thus degrade the profession to which we belong.

The suffering, petitions, prayers and wants of laborers and mechanics will be as unavailing as rain on a rock unless demanded through an organization. The Memphis Typographical Union is a fair, honorable, and useful organization, created for the purpose of securing a fair reward for the printer's day's work, regulated by the times, and the law of supply and demand, and as such we wish it and its members prosper.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

The Republicans pretend to derive consolation in the fact that the Democrats are irreconcilably divided on the currency question.

We admit that there is a bitter division among Democrats in regard to this question; but the Republicans are also divided. The National Democratic convention will harmonize the party on this issue.

In regard to it there are no doctrinal disputes; it is simply a question of policy; a distinction too technical and abstract to create any permanent party division.

National conventions are called for the very purpose of reconciling such dissensions. When everybody is in debt it is unwise to contract the currency.

In regard to the assertion that there is money enough in the country, the Richmond Whig asks: "If so, where is it? Why is it that there is such complaint of its scarcity everywhere? How is it that so many men are out of employment? How is it that the merchants are lowering the hard times? How is it that the farmers are so distressed to make the two ends meet as the close of the year? If there is a plenty of money in the country it is not

IN CIRCULATION; AND AN ACCURATE CORRELATION OF A PALEST CONTRADICTION—A FINANCIAL SECTION THAT SHOWS FALSENESS AS WELL AS TRUTH.

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NEW GOODS.

250 Packages New-shore Mackerel and Dried Herrings.

150 Tubs choice creamery dairy butter.

150 bbls new choice family flour.

50 boxes new New York cream cheese.

For sale low at

G. A. ECKERLY'S,

Cor. Front and Union Streets, Memphis.

—DEALER IN—

MARCUS JONES,

—DEALER IN—

WALL PAPER,

WINDOW SHADES, AND

DECORATIVE PAPER HANGINGS.

The Largest Stock of these goods in the city, and selling at cheap as any other low priced dealer.

296 1-2 Second Street.

For sale low at

I. D. CONAWAY,

Real Estate and Collecting Agent

No. 10 Madison St., Memphis, Tenn.

All business entrusted to me will receive prompt attention. Charges always reasonable.

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